

President Trump deems churches ‘essential’, calls for churches to reopen

Black pastors are hesitant

By Edelia “Dr. Jay” Carthan
Contributing Writer

President Donald Trump announced Friday that his administration deemed houses of worship “essential” and called on governors to allow churches to reopen amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Today, I am identifying houses of worship, churches, synagogues, mosques as essential services,” the president said during a white House briefing. “Some governors have deemed liquor stores and abortion clinics essential, but left out churches and houses of worship. It’s not right. So I’m correcting this injustice and calling houses of worship essential,” Trump exclaimed.

“I call upon governors to allow our places of worship to reopen now,” Trump said. He threatened to “override” governors who defied his orders but it is unclear if he has the power to do so.

Governor Tate Reeves issued guidelines for churches to



May

reopen safely during his daily press briefing last week. “I want to remind everyone that in our state churches were never shut down,” Reeves said. “It was important to protect our freedom of religion. It is important to recognize it is a slippery slope when the government starts

telling our religious institutions that they cannot meet. But I did ask pastors and churches to do the right thing.”

Reeves guidelines call for churches to replace choirs with solo performances. Avoid passing offering plates, and sanitize shared resources after



Rhodes

each use, i.e., restrooms, door-knobs, counters, microphones and seats. The guidelines also include using controlled points of entry and exit from the sanctuary.

Jerry Young, pastor of New

Churches
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Terry, Miss. honors 108-year-old native with a birthday parade

Matriarch urges young people to ‘stop being selfish...and let God lead’



Polk PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

By Edison T. Brown, III
Contributing Writer

When Terry, MS matriarch Eula Viola Polk was born, a gallon of gas cost seven cents, and a loaf of bread, a nickel. She was also born the first year that the zippers were used in clothing.

Her life has spanned to see so many things, and she’s not done yet. On Sunday, May 24, to celebrate her 108th birthday, Polk’s hometown had a parade in her honor.

Terry Mayor Joseph Kendrick, a Terry resident, said it was an honor for the city of Terry to celebrate Polk. “I grew up across the street from her,” said Kendrick. “She has been a great pillar of our community. In fact she is a mother figure to our community, and for [her] to live to see 108 and be in her right mind, still mobile is a

blessing.”

Polk told reporters she was blessed to receive such a grand way to celebrate her blessed milestone. Motorists passed her home yelling out birthday wishes to her as she smiled with such gratitude. Polk attributes her longevity to “living a life that suits God.”

She recalls that voting is one of her most rewarding experiences. She doesn’t remember when she registered to vote but has not missed an election since. “I have never missed voting in an election and I was excited when I was able to exercise that right and help elect the first black president, Barack Obama,” she told *The Mississippi Link*.

When Polk was born, William Howard Taft (serving

Polk

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Mental Health Awareness Month: Breaking the stigma

By Edelia “Dr. Jay” Carthan
Contributing Writer

The month of May has been observed as Mental Health Awareness Month since 1949. The mission of Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) is to help those living with anxiety, depression and co-occurring disorders and to help their loved ones find treatment, support and resources.

According to the ADAA, anxiety disorders are the most



Garrett

common mental illness in the United States, affecting

40 million adults every year. They develop from a complex set of risk factors, including genetics, brain chemistry, personality and life events. Although anxiety disorders are highly treatable, only 36.9 percent of those suffering receive treatment.

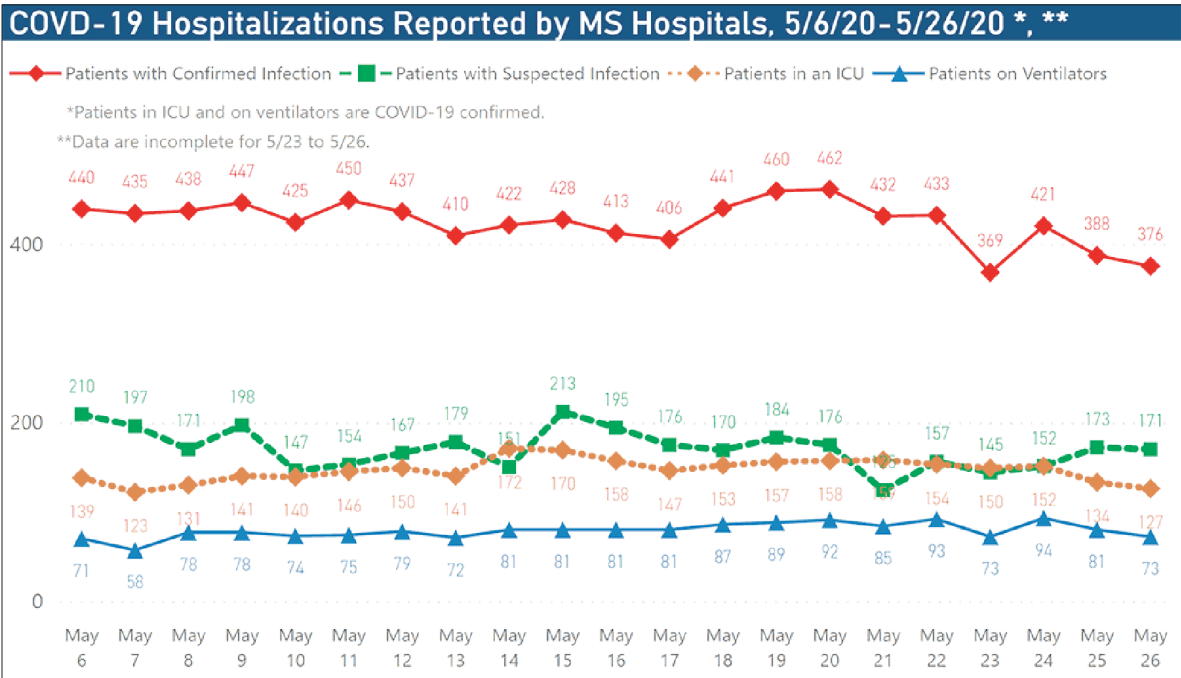
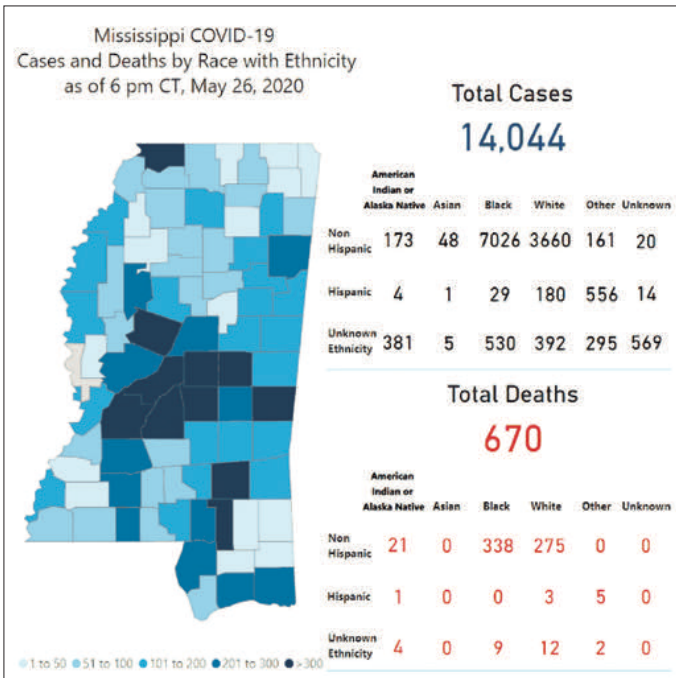
Unfortunately, most people suffer in silence. Nearly 450 million people worldwide are currently living with a mental illness, yet nearly two thirds of people with a known men-

tal illness never seek treatment, according to ADAA.

However, despite the bleak statistics, one young woman is choosing to join the ADAA’s annual call for the public to #breakthestigma associated with mental health by sharing her story.

Tameka Garrett, founder of professional networking company Stilettoes on the Pavement, gives her experience as

Garrett
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MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE

What You Can Do

Social distancing is still critical to stop the spread of COVID-19. Keep plenty of distance between yourself and others.

Wearing a mask or face covering can sharply reduce the risk of passing COVID-19 on to others.

Most people spreading COVID-19 do not know they are infected.

Remind others that precautions remain essential, and set an example by your actions.



Polk

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from 1909 to 1913) was president of the United States.

Hailing from a large family, she grew up as a hard-working farm girl. “We walked wherever we had to go, whether it was cold or hot, rain or sunshine,” Polk said. “We walked to school and church. [Sometimes] we rode in a wagon.” One can only imagine what a joy it was for Polk to see all of those cars parading down her street Sunday. “Oh, I love it!” she expressed.

Her life has been enriched by her children (one deceased), grandchildren, nieces, nephews and devoted caretaker. Her son, Moses Lee Hurk of New Jersey credits his mother’s guidance as shaping his life today. “She brought me up in the church and introduced me to God. My mother’s guidance led me to become the man and caring father that I am today.”

Niece Dollie Gathings describes her as “dependable and adventurous.” Another niece, Mae Grant, describes her aunt as living “a life of integrity before the Lord and her family. She continues to give wise counsel and is indeed a rare jewel.”

Her nephew-in-law, Rev. Dennis Grant describes his aunt as “wise, humble and classy.” He states, “She always encourages me and says when I preach, ‘Be sure to tell them the truth, Doc!’”

He also described her character as well. “She loves to serve people and she never looks for personal praise but always gives God the glory for whatever she does.” He compares his aunt to Phoebe, the biblical figure found in Romans 16:1, who is described as a “[commendable] servant” of the Church.

Longtime friend, Kristen Sulser Guinn, whose family were employers of Polk during the 1960s, endears her with these adjectives: “Faithful, Beautiful and Resilient.” “She has been my example of dignity, hard work and beauty my whole life and she has blessed us all beyond measure,” Guinn said.

Her grandchildren state that she is “loving, compassionate, helpful and confident.” They enjoy her family stories and her pearls of wisdom she never hesitates to share.

Polk is a member of Little Bethel CME Church in Terry, MS. She has served the church in a multitude of roles: Sunday school teacher, secretary, usher, choir member and missionary president are just a few. She also represents her church as a delegate for the district conference of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

She received an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from the New Foundation Theologi-



Polk with family



Polk with family

cal Seminary in Mississippi May 5, 2012.

Polk uses her influence to help people everywhere she goes. She states that in her 108 years she has seen a lot of things.



PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Cars in the neighborhood parade



Neighborhood youth line the street on Polk’s birthday celebration

When asked what advice she would give young people about how to live a long and healthy life she replied: “I would tell them to stop being so selfish, stop living their life for

other people, leave the hard stuff alone, like drugs, and let God lead you.”

Gail M. Brown also contributed to this article.



SMARTER BETTER HEALTHCARE



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Churches

Continued from page 1

Hope Baptist Church in Jackson, said it is too soon for these measures and his church won't open anytime soon. Young, who is also president of the National Baptist Convention, USA said, after speaking with ministers from across the nation, that his organization will make the recommendation to churches to not hold traditional services.

Noting the disproportionate effect that COVID-19 has had on African-American populations, Young said in a televised interview, "We need to be extraordinarily careful and very prayerful about how we approach this issue... For me, there are just simply too many variables of uncertainty for us to talk about June 1."

Rev. Joe May, who has been pastor at Anderson United Methodist Church in Jackson for 18 years, also said he does not think it's safe to reopen at this present time. "We don't want to rush back to church. Church is not a building. The people

are the church," he said. "We will continue to do morning devotionals, Bible study and Sunday service via technology. We will open when it is safe." May also echoed Young and stated that African Americans have the highest rate of cases and are the least tested.

Mount Helm is the oldest black church in Jackson. Founded in 1835, it began with several enslaved blacks worshipping in the basement of First Baptist Church and later became a separate body in 1867, the year the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified. C.J. Rhodes has been the pastor at Mt. Helm for the last 10 years.

He has assembled a task force made up of select members of his congregation possessing expertise in medical, legal and organizational matters to help with the direction the church will take in order to do the least harm to the health and well-being of their congregation.

"The campus may be closed, but the church

is open," Rhodes explained. "I appreciate the guidelines set forth by the governor's office, and I know my colleagues are eager to get back to traditional services. However, I don't think that in-person worship is the way to go at this time," Rhodes said. He sent a letter to his congregation projecting that the church will restore in-person services in July if it's safe to do so by then.

One minister, Hosea Hines who started Christ Tabernacle Church in August 2009 and has been a pastor for 49 years, seems to have gotten a head start on integrations of virtual alternatives for ministry. He said God put on his heart about two years ago to put sermons in a non contact format because of the drones, online shopping and other changes in society.

"Hebrews 10:25 says 'not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,'" said Hines. "So it's not about meeting physically. We are assembling through modern technology using Facebook live,

YouTube, Instagram and Twitter to stream three times a week to keep our congregation uplifted during this pandemic."

While the president and governor are encouraging churches to reopen, the Mississippi State Department of Health reported 247 new cases and over 13,000 total cases of the coronavirus and 625 deaths.

Black pastors are hesitant to open while the coronavirus is still spreading rapidly. Most of the pastors are concerned with the high number of cases in the African-American community, and will remain closed until the numbers decrease in spite of the governor's and president's request to open churches and houses of worship.

Ultimately, the preservation of public health will rest heavily in the hands of trusted faith leaders, as much as government officials.

Garrett

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someone affected by anxiety.

Q. How did you know you were struggling with anxiety?

A. I have always felt that something was different about me. I would often go from zero to one hundred in a matter of seconds. Later in life, I felt as though I could not stop over thinking, over analyzing and questioning myself.

In 2010, I was working a very demanding job in retail/restaurant management. I was up for three days straight and I could no longer tell the difference between reality and what appeared to be illusions.

The very next day, I told my mother I needed to see a doctor because I was a little afraid. We immediately headed to Grady Hospital in Atlanta. After several visits, I was diagnosed with a severe case of anxiety. To hear [the diagnosis] left me with mixed emotions and so I decided to do some research. But, it was not much of a surprise because others in my family have been diagnosed and/or display the same traits.

Q. What is it like living with anxiety?

A. Thriving in spite of my diagnosis is scary,

exciting and many times a challenge. There are days I have to literally talk my way through leaving the house; but there are also days I feel the most creative. For example, it was through those sleepless nights that God downloaded Stilettos on the Pavement in my dreams. I was able to take one thought and create a platform for professional business women to build and maintain professional relationships. That's the fun part. The scary part is one moment you are doing one thing and the next you are emotional and trying to explain why. Another scary thing is being alone and not having the support you need.

Q. What made you want to share your story?

A. I decided to share my journey with others for many reasons. First, it is a form of therapy for me. To release all my past pains, to forgive myself and others while looking forward to what tomorrow brings is therapeutic.

Secondly, too many people are walking around concerned with what others think, say or feel. The truth of the matter is, people should find reasons and ways to live their healthiest life for themselves.

Lastly, it is my prayer that by me sharing my story, others will see that indeed they are not alone. There are millions of people that face some sort of chemical imbalance daily. Once you know that and are honest then you can begin to live your healthiest life.

I recommend National Alliance Mental Illness (NAMI)), Hinds Behavioral Health and Stilettos on the Pavement (SOTP) as organizations that provide resources, including support groups, located in Mississippi.

I know God is my healer, and with my therapist and counselor providing resources and tools, I am able to survive normally everyday. I am thriving and so can you.

When people hear "Mental Health Disorders," specifically in the South, their thoughts seem negative or they laugh, which can be hard on someone who is suffering. Well, I am changing the narrative one testimony at a time.

I'm no poster child. Please do not misunderstand me. Yet, there are not enough people discussing the topic unless it happens to be a so-called 'star' or during the month of May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month. What hap-

pens after May?

Q. What advice do you have for others who may be dealing with mental illness?

A. My advice to others: First, to love [yourself] enough to seek help. It all begins with seeing a doctor to evaluate your mental health concerns and then finding a support system. The support system may be a friend, family member, or group within an organization such as a church that offers this service.

Create your own wellness plan and actually execute it. My plan consists of eating healthier, seeing my doctor and therapist, taking medication as needed, traveling to relax and regular walks for exercise. Seems simple, but it works.

I ask you to challenge yourself and take care of you. One thing I know for certain is that life goes on whether or not we participate.

If you or someone you know is suffering from a mental illness, please call 601 899-9058 to seek help or visit www.namims.org.

For further information contact Tameka on her website Stilettosonthepavement.com, IG [Tamekmscaligarrett](https://www.instagram.com/Tamekmscaligarrett), FB [Tameka MS-Cali Garrett](https://www.facebook.com/TamekaMS-CaliGarrett) or email Garrettstilettos@gmail.com



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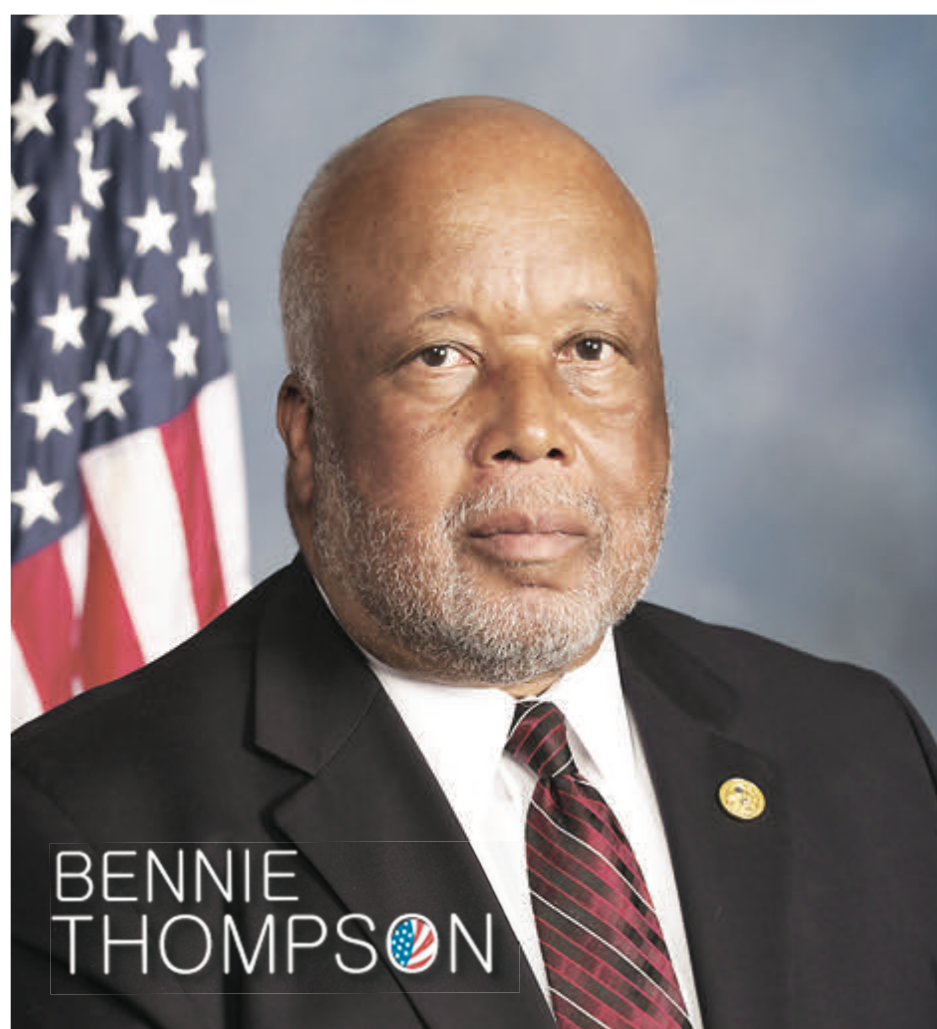
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Mental Health Month by reaching
out to millions of people.



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Awareness
Month



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November 3, 2020

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**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CLEARING, GRUBBING, AND LEAD REMEDIATION
SERVICES ON THE
EAST METRO CORRIDOR 31.7 ACRES
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 7000-002-20)**

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is requesting services from a Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) of which that is certified by one of the acceptable certifying entities. Certified DBEs eligible to bid on this solicitation are those who are certified by either the Mississippi Unified Certification Program (MUCP), Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA), Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), The City of Jackson, Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), or by the United States Small Business Administration (SBA). ("JMAA") will receive sealed electronic bids only at the Jackson- Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport ("JAN"), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 1:00 p.m. central time on June 15, 2020 (the "Bid Deadline"), for services in connection with the Clearing and Grubbing Services on the East Metro Corridor 31.7 Acres, Project No. 7000-002-20 at JAN (the "Work").

JMAA will accept electronic sealed bids only. Bids will be accepted until 1:00 p.m. central time on June 15, 2020, Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Once registered, Suppliers can download bid specifications and upload bid documents.

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 1:15 p.m. central time on June 15, 2020 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN.

The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the Bidder's company name and Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number and with the wording: "Clearing and Grubbing Services on the East Metro Corridor 31.7 Acres Project at JAN, JMAA Project No. 7000-002-20." Bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

JMAA will award the Work to the lowest most responsive and responsible Bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and most responsive and responsible Bidder.

Any Addendums issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered part of the Agreement.

The Information for Bidders, including plans and specifications, is on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the following address:

Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
Suite 300, Main Terminal Building
100 International Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 939-5631 ext. 662
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Attention: Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist

Bid Documents may be picked up or shipped to the person making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed, however, until payment is received.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference at 1:00 p.m. central time on June 8, 2020 in the Community Room, Main Terminal Building at JAN. Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is highly encouraged for all those interested in submitting bids as a Prime Contractor for the Work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Contractor. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Contractors and Sub-Contractors, as well as the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Bid Conference; review of the plans and specifications; and a site visit of the area covered in the scope of work. No site visits will be scheduled other than the one provided during the Pre-Bid conference.

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid Deadline; to reject any and all bids; to waive informalities in the bidding process; and to hold and examine bids for up to ninety (90) days before awarding the Contract to perform the Work.

If it becomes necessary to revise any aspect of this Request for Bids or to provide additional information to Bidders, JMAA will issue one or more Addenda by posting on JMAA's website (<https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>). JMAA will also endeavor to deliver a copy of each Addendum, to all persons on record with JMAA as receiving a copy of the Information for Bidders, via email.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: MAY 28, 2020
/s/ Paul A. Brown
Paul A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer

5-28-2020 6/4/2020

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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR
JAN FIRE ALARM SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
AUTHORITY
PROJECT NO. 12100-004-20
May 28, 2020**

JMAA is seeking electronic Proposals only for services for the JAN Fire Alarm System Improvements.

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") requests electronic Proposals ("Proposal") for JAN Fire Alarm System Improvements for Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport.

Proposals will be accepted until 9:00 a.m. central time on June 15, 2020, Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Mr. Deuntagus Herndon, JMAA's Procurement Specialist, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
100 International Drive, Suite 300 (39208)
Post Office Box 98109
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist
Telephone No.: (601) 360-8622
Facsimile No.: (601) 939-3713
E-Mail: dherndon@jmaa.com

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**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
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FOR
SERVICES AND RELATED WORK
IN CONNECTION WITH
HAWKINS FIELD PERIMETER LAND CLEARING
AT
HAWKINS FIELD AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 12500-001-20)**

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is requesting to receive electronic bids only from qualified respondents. JMAA will receive electronic bids via www.centralbidding.com or email at dherndon@jmaa.com until 4:00 p.m. central time on Monday, June 15, 2020 (the "Bid Deadline"), for construction and related services in connection with the Hawkins Field Perimeter Land Clearing Project at Hawkins Field Airport (the "Work"). For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Once registered, Respondents can download bid specifications and upload bid submissions.

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 4:10 p.m. central time on Monday, June 15, 2020 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Conference Room, West Terminal, Hawkins Field Airport.

JMAA will award the Work to the lowest and best most responsive and responsible Bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and most responsive and responsible Bidder. Any Addendums issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered part of the Agreement.

The Information for Bidders, including plans and specifications, is on file and open for public inspection at

or from JMAA's website at <https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>

Based on the Proposals received, JMAA will select a maximum of three (3) Respondents with whom to enter into negotiations to provide the Services. JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent ranked first on the list. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent, and follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Submission Conference at 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time on June 8, 2020, in the Community Room, 3rd Floor Mezzanine Level, at the Main Terminal Building at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, MS 39208. Attendance at the Pre-Submission Conference is highly encouraged for all those interested in submitting Proposals as a Prime Consultant for the Services and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Consultant. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Consultant and Sub-Consultants, as well as the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Submission Conference; and a detailed review of the scope of work. No additional conferences or meetings will be scheduled.

JMAA reserves the right to: (1) reject any and all Proposals, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services.

There is no DBE participation goal for this RFP.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

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BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES
IN CONNECTION WITH
THE REHABILITATION OF TAXIWAY DELTA AT HAWKINS
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 009-16)

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") will receive sealed bids at the Jackson- Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport ("JAN"), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 2:00 p.m. central time on June 11, 2020 (the "Bid Deadline"), for construction and related services in connection with the Rehabilitation of Taxiway Delta at Hawkins Project at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the "Work").

JMAA will also accept electronic sealed bids as specified in the bid documents. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. central time on June 11, 2020, Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Once registered, Suppliers can download bid specifications and upload bid documents.

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 2:15 p.m. central time on June 11, 2020 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN.

The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the Bidder's company name and Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number and with the wording: "Rehabilitation of Taxiway Delta at Hawkins Project at HKS, JMAA Project No. 009-16." Bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

JMAA will award the Work to the Lowest and Best most responsive and responsible Bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and most responsive and responsible Bidder. Any Addendums issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered part of the Agreement.

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Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
Suite 300, Main Terminal Building
100 International Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 939-5631 ext. 662
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Attention: Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist

A copy of the plans and specifications for the Work are being made available via digital and original paper copy. Plan holders may register and order plans and specifications from the Jackson Blueprint Online Plan Room website <http://planroom.jaxblue.com>. There is no charge for registration or to view the documents online. Documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. A printed bid set is \$75.00 plus \$20.00 shipping and applicable sales tax and an electronic downloadable set is \$25.00 plus applicable sales tax. For questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601) 353-5803.

Bid Documents may be picked up or shipped to the person making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed, however, until payment is received.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference at 10:00 a.m. central time on June 1, 2020 in the Community Room, Main Terminal Building at HKS. Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is highly encouraged for all those interested in submitting bids as a Prime Contractor for the Work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Contractor. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Contractors and Sub-Contractors, as well as the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Bid Conference; review of the plans and specifications; and a site visit of the area covered in the scope of work. No site visits will be scheduled other than the one provided during the Pre-Bid conference.

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid Deadline; to reject any and all bids; to waive informalities in the bidding process; and to hold and examine bids for up to ninety (90) days before awarding the Contract to perform the Work.

If it becomes necessary to revise any aspect of this Request for Bids or to provide additional information to Bidders, JMAA will issue one or more Addenda by posting on JMAA's website (<https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>). JMAA will also endeavor to deliver a copy of each Addendum, to all persons on record with JMAA as receiving a copy of the Information for Bidders, via email.

JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 20% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: May 20, 2020 /s/ Paul A. Brown

Paul A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer ,

5-21-2020 5/28/2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
A. OLD BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. 2020-09, REQUESTED BY: SAM NEWMAN, TO CONSTRUCT A NEW MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT 0 GILLESPIE STREET (PARCEL 15-9), LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

B. NEW BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. 2020-11, REQUESTED BY: JULIA MARKS YOUNG TO REPLACE THE 75' LONG TIMBER RETAINING WALL WITH 4' HIGH AND 75' LONG CONCRETE BLOCK RETAINING WALL AND INSTALL DRAINAGE AGGREGATE (PEA GRAVEL) & DRAINAGE PIPE BEHIND THE RETAINING WALL ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF THE HOUSE AT 1820 PINEHURST PL. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

II. ADJOURN

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, COMMISSIONERS AND APPLICANTS WILL ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING BZHAO@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER PRIOR TO JUNE 3, 2020.

5-21-2020, 5-28-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2020-05 Universal Screening for Jackson Public School District K - 12

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 09, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing HYPERLINKmailto:jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

5-21-2020, 5-28-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs
RFP 2020-03 Partner to Provide Support with Online Supplemental
Digital Software for Reading, Language, and Math

RFP 2020-04 Pre-Kindergarten Intervention Program

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 08, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at [HYPERLINK"http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us"](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us) www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

5-21-2020, 5-28-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs

RFP 2020-07 Lead Partner for Science Support and Assessments

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 10, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing HYPERLINKmailto:jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

5-21-2020, 5-28-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bids

Bid 3134 Smart Boards

Bid 3135 Promethean Boards

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 11, 2020, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (5:00 p.m., June 05, 2020) local time to be the given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the electronic reverse auction at www.centralbidding.com on June 11, 2020 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

5-28-2020, 6-4-2020

LEGAL

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND
REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received electronically via MAGIC or physically delivered to the office of the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 06/30/2020, for:

RE: GS# 373-002 Tenant Improvements (MDOR & Audit)
State Service Center (Office of Capitol Facilities)
(Department of Finance and Administration)
RFx #: 3160003649

at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contract documents may be obtained from:

Professional: Albert & Robinson Architects, PLLC
Address: Post Office Box 1567
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39403
Phone: 601-544-1970
Email: chrshr@ar-architects.com

A deposit of \$250.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

Calvin R. Sibley, Bureau Director
Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management

5-28-2020, 6-4-2020

LEGAL

Request for Quotes (RFQ)#2020-02
LANDSCAPING AND GROUND MAINTENANCE AT VARIOUS
PROPERTIES- JTRAN

The City of Jackson (the "City"), through its Department of Planning and Development, Office of Transportation, is soliciting Quotes from qualified providers for Landscaping and Ground Maintenance for the Administration Building (located at 1785 Highway 80 W), old JTRAN-until disposal (located at 1025 University Blvd.) and JTRAN's Transfer/Hub Station (located at Union Station @ 300 W Capitol St).

Interested firms may obtain a copy of a detailed Request for Quotes, and any Quotes addenda by emailing mguice@jacksonms.gov. Official Quotes documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Please reference RFQ#2020-02.

Six copies of the offeror's Quotes together with a PDF file of the Quotes on a flash drive shall be deposited with the City of Jackson, Office of City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by 3:30 pm, Central Standard Time (CST). Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Submittals received after the specified date and time shall not be accepted.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each proposer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan with the Quotes submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a proposer from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the City of Jackson's Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications, and a copy of the program are available at the following location: 200 South President Street, Room 223, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City of Jackson encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City of Jackson, as well as those who seek to contract with the City of Jackson on various projects and/or conduct business in Jackson to assist the City of Jackson in achieving its goal by strongly considering City of Jackson residents for employment opportunities.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all Quotes and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

5-7-2020, 5-14-2020, 5-21-2020, 5-28-2020, 6-4-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING FLOYD MARSHALL JR. A REZONING FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-2 (LIMITED) COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND VIABLE COMMERCIAL NODE ALONG THE MEDGAR EVERS CORRIDOR FOR THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 3733 MEDGAR EVERS BLVD (PARCEL 408-403) AND THE VACANT LOTS LOCATED ON PARCELS 408-405, 408-406, 408-407 AND 408-408, CASE NO. 4082.

WHEREAS, Floyd Marshall Jr. has filed a petition to rezone properties located at 3733 Medgar Evers Blvd (Parcel 408-403) and the vacant lots located on Parcels 408-405, 408-406, 408-407 and 408-408, in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi from R-1 (Single-family) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to create a more sustainable and viable commercial node along the Medgar Evers corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has recommended the approval of the rezoning of the properties at 3733 Medgar Evers Blvd (Parcel 408-403) and the vacant lots located on Parcels 408-405, 408-406, 408-407 and 408-408 from R-1 (Single-family) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to create a more sustainable and viable commercial node along the Medgar Evers corridor; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, February 24, 2020 to consider said change, based upon the record of the case as developed before the City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on January 2, 2020 and January 16, 2020, that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on January 22, 2020, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board had recommended the rezoning of the properties located at 3733 Medgar Evers Blvd (Parcel 408-403) and the vacant lots located on Parcels 408-405, 408-406, 408-407 and 408-408 from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District; and

WHEREAS, the Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the properties and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with said application since any previous City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. That the properties located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particular described as follows:

Parcel #408-403
Lot 8 BLK 12 ELRAINE RESY PT2 & THAT PT S ½ VACATED CARSON ST N OF & ADJ TO LOT 8

Parcel #408-405
Lot Ten (10), Block Twenty-two (22), Elaine Resurvey, Part Two, Hinds County, Mississippi a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, and being Plat Book four (4) at page 71, reference to which map or plat is hereby made in aid of and as part of this description.

Parcel #408-406
Lot 11 BLK 22 ELRAINE RESY PT2

Parcel #408-407
Lot Twelve 12, Block 22, ELRAINE RESY PT 2, Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi

Parcel #408-408
N ½ of lot thirteen (13), Block 22, ELRAINE RESY PT 2, Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi

Are hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the properties located at 3733 Medgar Evers Blvd (Parcel 408-403) and the vacant lots located on Parcels 408-405, 408-406, 408-407 and 408-408 from R-1 (Single-family) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to create a more sustainable and viable commercial node along the Medgar Evers corridor. However, that before for any structure is erected or use thereof on the said properties, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

President Lindsay moved adoption; **Council Member Banks** seconded.

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priestner and Tillman.
Nays- None.
Absent- Stamps and Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Interim Chief Deputy Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Interim Chief Deputy Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records of the Council and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Zoning Meeting on February 24, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6Q, Pgs. 507-508".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 12th day of March, 2020.

SEAL


Angela Harris, Interim Chief Deputy Municipal Clerk

5-28-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

City of Jackson

Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

74567-061620 – Twelve-Month Supply Asphalt Paving Materials

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE CITY OF JACKSON'S WEBSITE, WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV AND CENTRAL BIDDING, WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM

The above must comply with the City's specifications. Copies of proposal forms can be obtained from the Purchasing Division, 200 South President Street, Room 604, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Copies of bid specifications are filed with the City Clerk for public record in accordance with House Bill No 999, 1986 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in Public Purchasing. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunities for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with each bid submission, in accordance with the provisions set forth by authority of the City of Jackson's EBO Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offer, from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City's EBO Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at (601)960-1638. Copies of the EBO Ordinance, EBO Plan Application and a copy of the EBO Program are available with the Office of Economic Development at 218 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The City also reserves the right to waive any and all informalities in respect to any bid submitted. Bid awards will be made to the lowest and best bidder quoting the lowest net price in accordance with specifications. The award could be according to the lowest cost per item; or to the lowest total cost for all items; or to accept all or part of any proposal. Delivery time may be considered when evaluating the bid proposal. In those cases where it is known prior to advertising that the City's intention is to award according to the lowest total cost for all items, or in some variation thereof, statements to this affect will be included on the proposal form. Absence of such statement means the City will make that determination during the bid review.

Destiney Williams, Manager
Purchasing Division
(601)960-1025 or 1533

5-28-2020, 6-4-2020

LEGAL

Request for Proposal (RFP)#2020-01

Transportation Plan Study

The City of Jackson (the "City"), through its Department of Planning and Development, Office of Transportation, is soliciting proposals to retain the services of a consultant team to provide professional services to develop a transportation plan that provides a long-range vision aimed at reshaping its public transit network, supporting a multitude of mobility options, enhancing major public transportation corridors, and integrating land-use policies with a well-connected transportation system.

Interested firms may obtain a copy of a detailed Request for Proposals, and any proposal addenda by emailing mguice@jacksonms.gov. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Please reference RFP#2020-01.

Six copies of the offeror's Proposal together with a PDF file of the Proposal on a flash drive shall be deposited with the City of Jackson, Office of City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by 3:30 pm, Central Standard Time (CST). Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Submittals received after the specified date and time shall not be accepted.

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The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

5-7-2020, 5-14-2020, 5-21-2020, 5-28-2020, 6-4-2020

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Capitol Street and Monument Street

CITY HALL

219 S President St

GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX

2659 Livingston Road

DOLLAR GENERAL

3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

2030 N Siwell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

4331 Highway 80W

DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL

2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST

2325 Livingston Rd.

MCDADE'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADE'S MARKET #2

653 Duling Avenue

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Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

SHELL FOOD MART

5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55

MURPHY USA

6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)

REVELL ACE HARDWARE

Terry Rd (South Jackson)

WALGREENS

380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON

A & I

716 Roby Street - Canton, MS

B & B

702 West North Street - Canton, MS

BOUTIQUE STORE

3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS

BULLY'S STORE

Church Street - Canton, MS

COMMUNITY MART

743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS

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Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS

HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN

285 Peace Street - Canton, MS

JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY

507 Church Street - Canton, MS

K & K ONE STOP

110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

LACY'S INSURANCE

421 Peace Street - Canton, MS

SOUL SET BARBER SHOP

257 Peace Street - Canton, MS

TRAILER PARK GROCERY

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BYRAM

DOLLAR GENERAL

125 Swinging Bridge Dr.

HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE

5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road

CITY HALL

Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL

807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

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at Exit 78

CITY HALL

West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELCOME CENTER

505 E. Main Street

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122 Old Port Gibson Street, Raymond, MS

LOVE FOOD MART

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RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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RAYMOND CITY HALL

110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

UTICA

HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP

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PITT STOP

101 Hwy 18 & 27

BOLTON

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Week of May 24, 2020

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By Pastor Simeon R. Green III
Special to The Mississippi Link



If there was ever a time that men and women need the sound teaching of the Word of God, it is surely today. We are seeing sin and ungodliness turned loose right before our eyes. The reason these conditions exist is due to the lack of godly instructions.

In addition, many people are failing to walk in the light that they hear and know.

We read in Micah 4:2 these words: “And many nations shall come, and say, come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the

house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”

Micah was encouraging the people of his day to get to God’s house and to learn more perfectly of His ways. By sitting in heavenly places, we are exposed to the old paths, wherein God desires us to go. It is no wonder that the psalmist said in Psalm 122:1, “I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord.”

David knew the importance of going to God’s house. It was there that he received help and instruction for spiritual needs. We surely

believe the psalmist looked forward to joining with others to fellowship and to hear the Word of God proclaimed.

We live in a troublesome time, a time when the forces of evil have been turned loose against the people of God. The forces led by Satan are determined to destroy our faith and defeat us, if possible. Satan’s purpose is to turn, if he can, as many away from the path of holiness and true righteousness.

Friend, we need all the instructions and directions we can receive of the Lord. Learning about the good old paths and understanding those things that please God are more needful today than ever before. The Hebrew

writer instructed us “not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together” in Hebrews 10:25. It is through the hearing, believing and obeying of the Word of God that brings victory to the soul.

James proclaimed good admonition when he said in James 1:22, “Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only.” Paul said in Philippians 3:14, “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

P R E S E R V E D

A mighty fortress revisited

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



About ten years ago, I was blessed with an awesome professional opportunity to visit Salzburg, Austria. My duties were to chaperone a group of 20 college students at a 10-day Global Citizen Conference that was held at the Schloss Leopoldskron in Salzburg.

This was my fourth time doing so and I was excited about getting a chance to revisit one of my favorite places, an 18th Century castle where part of one of my favorite movies The Sound of Music was filmed.

What I didn’t anticipate was how revisiting some of the same places that I toured previously would provide me with a new lesson about God’s protection. Lately I’ve thought a lot about my past overseas trips as I’ve stayed inside my house doing my best to avoid exposure to the Coronavirus.

The “Hohensalzburg Fortress” is a 900 years old military fortress that overlooks Salzburg. Called simply the ‘fortress,’ for centuries it protected the city from invaders. In pictures, it actually overlooks the city. Looking at the huge walls, I could see why. It didn’t matter what was behind the walls; the walls themselves were intimidating enough.

That year when I visited the fortress, I took the audio tour that explained in detail the history of the fortress and the many rooms inside of it including the torture chamber.

It also detailed how religious leaders used the fortress as a place of refuge from invading forces as well as a place of residence. I

found out that what looked like merely a place of military protection was actually a place that had multiple purposes.

Years ago, I wrote about the signs of the place’s militarization like the canons still strategically placed in the upper levels of the fortress. Even though the fortress was a tourist attraction, in many ways it was still serving as a reminder of protection without firing one canon shot. From anywhere in Salzburg, you could look up, see the fortress and feel a sense of calm and peace.

Rereading what I wrote about retracing my steps from a few years ago makes me think about the experiences I’ve had recently in which I’ve relied on God’s protection. For example, with the current pandemic, praying for God’s protection has been my priority every time I leave my house.

Even in simply going to the grocery store or gas station, I’ve never felt more vulnerable. But when I’ve looked up through prayer and praise, God has shown me that (even when I felt it least), His grace has protected me.

The fortress reminded me of the words of Psalm 48: 3 “God is in her citadels; he has shown himself to be her fortress.”

If we look up to God no matter what our circumstances, especially in the midst of this chaotic global health crisis, we can know that God is always watching over us, providing protection.

Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, TX based author of “Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email preserved-by-purpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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NNPA Exclusive: Iconic entertainer and entrepreneur Ice Cube speaks to the Black Press

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire
Senior Correspondent

Like very few others, Ice Cube is celebrated for his groundbreaking accomplishments in music, film, sports and entrepreneurship.

The legendary South-Central Los Angeles-born megastar is currently celebrating the 30th anniversary of his debut solo album, Amerikkka's Most Wanted, and the release of his 31st feature film, The High Note, which stars Cube, Tracee Ellis Ross and Dakota Johnson.

On May 21, Cube sat for an exclusive interview with the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA). The discussion was broadcast live on Facebook and YouTube (facebook.com/blackpressusa/live and youtube.com/nnpa) and archived to various platforms, including Facebook, YouTube, and Vimeo.com.

"The NNPA was pleased and excited to live stream with our Brother Leader Ice Cube on behalf of the Black Press of America," said Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., NNPA president and CEO. "Cube continues to spit truth to power in his lyrics, videos, music and the genius of his creative talent and high energy. In addition to learning more about his latest project, our discussion was especially important in light of the devastating COVID-19 pandemic and the in-

creased racial tension between African Americans and the police."

"Thirty years ago, Ice Cube dropped his debut solo album, Amerikkka's Most Wanted. After leaving N.W.A., he became an instant solo star, and his first video for Who's the Mack, even takes a shot at Trump," noted Andrew Barber, the founder of the influential music blog, Fake Shore Drive, in a tweet. "A true visionary and trendsetter."

Born in 1969, Cube's rise to superstardom began in the 1980s as a member of the group, N.W.A., which featured Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, DJ Yella, and MC Ren. As young visionaries, N.W.A. took the music world by storms with cutting and hard-hitting lyrics that included the 1988 blockbuster, Straight Outta Compton, which sold north of 3 million copies.

One of N.W.A.'s most successful and controversial singles, F... tha Police, delved into the divide between young black men and law enforcement. A divide that has evolved into a chasm with police shootings of unarmed African Americans occurring almost daily.

When asked in a recent interview about the song, Cube reiterated why he and his bandmates believed the song was important in 1988, and why it still resonates today.

"At the time, Daryl Gates, who was the chief of police over at the LAPD, had declared a war on gangs. A war

on gangs, to me, is a politically correct word to say a war on anybody you think is a gang member," Cube told the website, Colorlines.

"So, the way we dressed and the way we looked and where we come from, you can mistake any kid for a gang member. Any good kid. Some of them dress like gangbangers, and they go to school every day because that's the fashion in the neighborhood," Cube stated.

"So, to declare that, it meant a war on every black kid with a baseball hat on, with a T-shirt on, some jeans and some tennis shoes. So, it was just too much to bear, to be under that kind of occupying force, who was abusive. It's just; enough is enough. Our music was our only weapon. Nonviolent protest."

After his debut solo album, Cube took the big screen by storm with a stirring performance in John Singleton's 1992 movie, Boyz n the Hood.

Cube has established a long-standing reputation for developing film franchises that are both critically-acclaimed and commercially successful, including Barbershop, Friday, Ride-A-Long, and Are We There, Yet?

"I keep the fire in me," Cube has said. "You gotta be able to survive in whatever environment you find yourself. The 'hood means everything to me. You never know when you could wind up back there."

In Memorium

Rev. Vaughn Adam Burke

January 7, 1961 - May 13, 2020

"I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a Crown of Righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing." 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

Rev. Vaughn Adam Burke was born to the late Carl Andrew Burke Sr. and Late Jimmie Mildred Adams January 7, 1961 in Kosciusko, MS.

He received his education at Kosciusko High School and received his GED at Attala Center.

He was united in holy matrimony November 16, 1982 to Rosie Lee Ellis. They were blessed with four beautiful daughters.

He accepted Christ at the age of 17 as his personal Saviour. He preached and taught the word of God every chance he had. He pastored Free Chapel Methodist church for 4 years. He joined Christian Liberty M.B. Church in March of 2003; where he served as an associate minister. He enjoyed preaching, singing, fishing, traveling, and spending time with his family. He was a long-distance truck driver for 17 years. He had a generous heart and loving spirit.

He was preceded in death by his parents Carl A. Burke Sr. and Jimmie M. Adams; brothers James Henry Burke, Ricky Burke, Wilbert Pete Burke, and oldest sister Clara Evers

He leaves to cherish fond memories wife, Rosie Lee Ellis Burke, four daughters, Cassandra Grace Burke,



Felicia Denise Griffin (Houston) of Kosciusko, MS. Rosilyn Lee Burke (Ridgeland, MS) and Sarah Kathleen Burke (Oxford, MS); one brother Carl A. Burke Jr. (Hazelgreen, AL; sister in law Doris Ellis (Jackson, MS); nephew Eric M. Burke (Thomastown, MS); ten grandchildren, Maurisha F. Dillon, Eric C. Mapp, Aubrianna N. Smiley, Jakerria J. Banks, Joshua A. Ickom, Gabrielle R. Williams, Kaleb C. Burke, Layla D. Williams, Noah T. Burke, and Mariah H. Griffin; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

"His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matthew 25:21.

Graveside service and interment were held at Marble Rock Cemetery in Kosciusko, MS 5/19/20.

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- 4) Child's Social Security number
- 5) Medical insurance of child (if applicable)
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COVID-19 denies ‘Golden Diploma’ recipient of another formal graduation

By Daphne Higgins
Contributing Writer

It’s been 50 years, but the opportunity to march across the stage to be acknowledged for earning her Bachelor of Science degrees is still a feat that Catherine James, (71), of Jackson, has yet to experience.

With a double-major in math and science, James, along with many of her classmates who were graduating seniors of the Jackson State University Class of 1970, were not allowed to celebrate in a formal display of accomplishment because of the tragic shooting just days prior to them receiving their degrees from the Historically Black College/University, then known as Jackson State College.

James, who comes from a long line of JSU graduates, which includes her parents and three of her siblings, is not sure of the number of people who were in her 1970 graduating class, but does know that there was a lot of excitement

around the planned 2020 recognition which would have physically awarded the participants their Golden Diplomas. “Fifty years later there was so much being planned for us,” said James. “The school was going to have a meet and greet for us and our family members, a brunch, picnic, and a cap and gown ceremony. It was going to be wonderful. Now, here we are. We can’t do it again because of this virus.”

She is referring to COVID 19 (a strain of the Coronavirus), a pandemic outbreak of respiratory illnesses and deaths that has caused the cancellation and restructuring of activities around the world.

“Jackson State did have a virtual graduation May 9, and I was identified in that celebration as a Golden Diploma recipient. My brother, Leonard James, a resident of Dallas, Tex., was so excited to see my name listed on his computer screen. Just imagine how exciting it would have been to

have my name called at the actual graduation,” James said. “I can tell you this, if the opportunity is available again in 2021, I plan to be a part of it.”

James noted a year after they left college, she and her classmates were sent wallet sized degrees and that the class of 1970 was given the option to participate in graduation at a later time, but many classmates chose not to because of other obligations taking place in their lives. An article published in *The New York Times* in 1977 recognized the class of 1970. The article noted the class of 1970’s experience which was included in the university’s 100th commencement. The commemorative diplomas were awarded by John A. Peoples Jr., then president of Jackson State, who said that he was pleased to re-confer degrees that were “so unceremoniously received the first time.” About 40 members of the class of 1970 donned caps and gowns during

that ceremony.

James said that on the day of the riot, known as “The May 1970 Tragedy at Jackson State University,” she was on campus until around 6 p.m. She walked to her nearby family home hours before the shooting began. “When it started, you could hear everything, even if you weren’t on campus. The next day it was all very visible. You could smell the blood in the dormitory,” James recalled.

On May 15, 1970 21-year-old JSU student Phillip Gibbs and high school student James Earl Green were killed on the JSU campus. A dormitory was riddled with bullets and several students were wounded from the gunfire of Jackson police officers because of earlier protests that were alleged/cited.

“The day after the riot, we were told that school was closed. I can remember students taking over the (Lynch) street in a solidarity protest. I worked in the math de-

partment and was told by my instructors that we needed to try to get everything processed because school was over. Students were told that they didn’t have to complete their student teaching. What was in the system is what would be documented for class completion. There was a lot of chaos. Later on, we were given the option to march for our ten-year class anniversary, but I didn’t. At that time, in 1980, I didn’t feel that it was truly about my class so I didn’t give it much thought. But like I said earlier, I don’t plan to miss it again,” she said.

James shared her thoughts regarding the fate of the high school and college graduating classes of 2020. “I feel for them because you look forward to enjoying your senior activities, but nothing could be held because of the virus. Then, we knew we’d accomplished something but felt that it all got lost in not having the physical graduation.”




James

She applauded the creativity of the graduates and their families for figuring out ways to recognize their milestones and added, “Graduation is an exciting time so I really am happy for them moving into a new phase of life but I also understand what they are missing. So many of these young people will go on to do good things just like the class of 1970.”

A retired teacher from the Jackson Public School District, where she taught high school and middle school, James currently teaches elementary school students at Thea Bowman Catholic School.

She is the mother of two children, Alicia and Michael, and one granddaughter, Alyssa.



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SMOOTH 100.5 FM

My personal battle from a positive to a negative result

Boney shares his personal journey of surviving the coronavirus and dealing with the emotional and mental anguish required to overcome COVID-19

By Jeffrey L. Boney
NNPA Newswire Contributor

“Jeffrey, unfortunately, your test came back positive for the Coronavirus.”

Hearing those words from the doctor, March 27, shook me to the core.

Was that a death sentence for me?

Was it a coincidence that my mom years earlier had died in the same month of March?

Was this really how my life was going to end?

The news reports I had been watching and reading reported dire results relative to those who had contracted the virus. Death tolls were rising. Governors began searching for beds and ventilators for people who were being impacted by this virus.

Honestly, I felt like the odds were stacked against me.

The journey for me started with a very slight cough. On March 17, I started experiencing internal digestive symptoms that I initially assumed was a result of me not eating anything that day. It was a Tuesday, which meant it was press day at the *Houston Forward Times*, where I serve as the associate editor. Now, it wasn’t uncommon for me to skip breakfast and skip lunch in order to remain laser focused on getting the newspaper done. However, when I started feeling faint, I decided to get something to eat.

I made my way down to the Reggae Hut around 5:30 p.m. and ordered the oxtails, rice and peas and the vegetables, along with a beef patty and a Kola Champagne to drink. I made my way back down to my office with my plate and I ate a little bit of the rice and peas; a little of the vegetables; and barely ate one of the oxtails, before closing the container and putting the plate in the refrigerator. That was the last time I saw that plate or my office.

The next day, I not only had a continuous loss of appetite, I also had stomach pain and was experiencing heavy and unusual bouts of diarrhea. I even had an episode where I went to the bathroom and while on the way, I passed out and was disoriented. I woke up lying on the floor in a sweat, trying to figure out what happened to me. I drank lots of water, tried natural remedies and ceased all of my normal activities. None of that worked or changed my situation.

I self-quarantined and self-isolated for eight days – from Tuesday, March 17 to Wednesday, March 25. During that time, I contacted my primary care physician, who informed me that continuing to self-quarantine was probably the best option at the time, considering the symptoms I was experiencing.

I decided to reach out to my good friend, State Representative Ron Reynolds to express my concerns about my health status, as well as get his advice on whether he thought I should go through one of the drive-thru testing sites that had recently opened. I desperately wanted to get tested, primarily for my peace of mind, but also because I was concerned for my family. They were still living in the same house as me.

I saw the news. I read the media reports online and on social media. It was clear, based on those reports, that I was not displaying the type of respiratory symptoms that the majority of COVID-19 patients were reported to have been experiencing, such as shortness of breath or having a heavy cough. There were also reports that the only way a person could be tested was if they were elderly or a first responder. I was deeply concerned.

A few days after my call with Reynolds, I received a call on my cell phone from U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee Wednesday, March 25. She had heard I was experiencing a health challenge and asked me some questions. Lee then immediately informed me that she wanted me to come down to United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC) on Tidwell to get tested right away. I wasted



Boney

no time. I asked the congresswoman for the address and immediately got dressed to make my way to UMMC.

As I was driving to the hospital, Lee told me that she had already spoken to the chief medical officer for United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC), Dr. Joseph Varon, and that he was prepared to receive me and administer the test.

I was so relieved that I would be able to get tested and get a definitive on whether I had contracted the COVID-19 virus or not.

I arrived to UMMC and was met by Dr. Varon. He walked with me inside to the place where I was to be tested, and he immediately tried to put me at ease. I was told by Dr. Varon that my test results would take anywhere from 24-48 hours to come back, so I waited patiently and eagerly.

As anxious as I was to find out the results on the following day, I decided to give it another day.

On that Friday, March 27, things took a drastic turn for the worse, as it relates to my health. I began to cough, and what I thought would be regular phlegm coming out, turned out to be a significant amount of bright red blood. As this continued to happen, I made the decision to call Dr. Varon and share my update. After hearing my status, Dr. Varon implored me to come to the UMMC Emergency Room (ER) immediately, which I prepared to do.

Before I got off the phone with him, however, he hit me with the update I was anxious to finally receive, but with some news I was definitely hoping and praying not to hear. Dr. Varon informed me that I had tested “POSITIVE” for the Coronavirus.

I was shook. My family was stunned. I am a married father of three. My family is everything.

Upon my arrival, there were two large signs that said STOP. My wife, who had followed me to the hospital, was not allowed inside. I was met by medical staff and they ushered me into a room in the ER. She stood outside awaiting word. The nursing staff immediately went to work, initially drawing blood and then taking some vitals at the order of Dr. Varon.

As events would unfold, Dr. Varon would turn out to be one of the primary angels of medicine that made the difference relative to my Coronavirus recovery efforts.

One of the first things Dr. Varon ordered his medical staff to do with me upon my arrival to the ER was to do a CT Scan. For those who may not know, a CT Scan is more detailed than a regular X-ray, and allows doctors to see inside your body by using a combination of X-rays and a computer to create images of your organs and other things inside your body.

Of course, I didn’t know why a CT Scan was being performed on me at the time, nor did I know what the end result would be. Let me just say that performing that CT Scan on me was the best thing that could have ever happened to me, because it revealed something major that was going on inside my body that couldn’t be seen by looking at me from the outside. The CT Scan revealed that

my lungs showed a severe case of pneumonia, as well as other issues involving my vital organs that came as a result of the Coronavirus.

It was decided at that moment that I needed to be admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) right away. It was then that I realized how serious things were, and it was the moment that I knew that I was going to have to rely on my faith in God.

I called my wife to tell her I was being admitted and informed her that I was not going to be able to have any visitation throughout my time in the ICU. I was on a mental and emotional roller coaster at this point. I didn’t know how long I would be in ICU, but more importantly, whether I would make it out alive. I could not help but think about the time in 2003 when my wife and I took my mom to the ER because she was ill. It was a life-altering experience for me.

After being seen by doctors in the ER, the medical staff informed us that my mom would need to be admitted to address her serious health condition, which turned out to be worse than believed.

My wife and I decided to stay with her, but my mom kept telling us to go home, get some rest and come back the next morning. We stayed anyway. They moved her in the wee hours of the morning to a different floor. It was then that I told her that I was not going very far, as I chose to sleep at my mother-in-law’s house because it was closer to the hospital than my house was.

As reluctant as I felt leaving my mom at that hospital, nothing compares to the phone call I received from the hospital, no more than five minutes after I laid my head down on the pillow. The nurse on duty called to inform me that my mom had stopped breathing and had slipped into a coma. I mean, right after I left.

They told me that there was a shift change and that my mom had been given a specific medication, and by the time the new nurse on duty went to check on my mom, they became aware of the situation.

I was devastated. I felt guilty. I felt as if I was there, I could’ve possibly done something. Several months later, my mother passed away and I never forgot that moment.

As I was being prepared to go to ICU myself, I was reminded of my mom’s experience, and I was instantly bombarded with memories and emotions about what she endured. I also struggled with the mental anguish of worrying about a virus that reportedly has no cure or vaccine to fight it. I knew I needed to draw on something greater than myself to get through this ordeal.

On Friday, March 27, the journey towards fighting the Coronavirus had truly just begun.

Not only did I have a severe case of pneumonia when I entered ICU, my liver and kidneys also needed to be protected from the virus; my heart rate was through the roof; my heart condition worsened and I was headed to the point of potential heart failure; my blood pressure was high; I had a sharp pain in my right side; I continued to have heavy diarrhea episodes; and I still had a loss of appetite. Things were not looking good



Boney

for me and I felt horrible. I began to wonder if I was ever going to get better.

From the very beginning, I had to rely on my faith in God, as I continued to deal with the mental anguish of being in this Coronavirus-specific ICU area, particularly knowing that there were people around with breathing issues and hearing machines go off all day and night, and as I regularly looked at the news and read reports showing the number of people dying on a daily basis as a result of the virus.

I needed a miracle.

Because I didn’t have any respiratory issues, just digestive issues, it caused the doctors to develop a treatment plan for me that was different than other patients they had been treating prior to my arrival to the hospital. Dr. Varon and Dr. Joseph Gathe Jr. oversaw my care. They created a whole Coronavirus cocktail, which included heavy doses of Vitamin C, which was specific to my treatment. Per Dr. Varon, my case taught them that they must use high dose blood thinners on every Coronavirus patient admitted to the hospital.

After several days, my symptoms began to subside, and my appetite came back in a major way. I longed for my breakfast, lunch and dinner, and couldn’t wait to eat it. Dr. Varon eventually informed me that all of my vital organs had returned to normal and that my blood work and vital signs were solid.

Finally, I felt like I was turning a corner and getting better. That was until a second CT Scan was performed, which revealed more shocking and devastating news regarding my health condition.

When the results of my second CT Scan came back, it revealed that I had been diagnosed with a pulmonary embolism in my right lung. A pulmonary embolism occurs when blood clots block the flow of blood to the lungs. A pulmonary embolism can be fatal and life-threatening, which is why Dr. Varon and his team promptly took the necessary steps to address the blood clot and reduce my risk of death. I was immediately placed on blood thinner medication.

I continued to follow the instructions of the doctors until I received that wonderful news that on Sunday, April 5, I had made significant and miraculous improvement, and subsequently was being discharged to go home to my family. I was so thrilled, yet still deeply concerned because I still didn’t know whether I was still “POSITIVE” with the Coronavirus.

I was concerned about my family and praying they would be fine. Prior to be-

ing discharged, I had another COVID-19 test done and was awaiting the results. I self-isolated once again, until I got my second test results. After several days, I got the results and tested “NEGATIVE” for the virus. Because I wanted to be completely sure before interacting with my family again, the doctors administered another COVID-19 test and those results came back “NEGATIVE” as well.

This was a long and faith-filled journey, to which I still am slated to have to deal with – this blood clot in my right lung for the next six months or so. I will continue to fight and do what I am supposed to do. In the meantime, I am encouraging everyone, especially my African-American brothers and sisters, to get tested. I believe everyone should be tested immediately, regardless of whether you have symptoms or not.

This is NOT a drill.

This virus is unrepentant and aggressive and can spread quickly to anyone who comes in contact with it. Listen to your local leaders and medical professionals to help stop the community spread.

I am a living witness that you can contract this virus and how it impacts you. Don’t ignore your symptoms and don’t ignore the seriousness of this virus. Don’t be selfish and just think about yourself. Think about your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, loved ones and those you don’t know. Stay safe.

Giants can be intimidating. The fight can many times be tough. Sometimes we lose. Sometimes we win. The common thread in winning versus losing is giving it all you have when you are in the midst of a fight. In the Bible, David showed us that giants can indeed fall. This was my journey, and this is my testimony.

I am forever grateful to God and to everyone who uttered a prayer, shared an encouraging word, provided any resources or sent positive energy my way.

My family and I greatly appreciate each and every one of you. God bless you, and let’s do everything in our power to defeat this horrible and vicious COVID-19 virus.

Jeffrey L. Boney is a political analyst and international correspondent for the NNPA Newswire and BlackPressUSA.com and serves as associate editor for the Houston Forward Times newspaper. Jeffrey is an award-winning journalist, dynamic international speaker, experienced entrepreneur, business development strategist and founder and CEO of the Texas Business Alliance. Follow Jeffrey on Twitter @realtalkjunkies.

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Congratulations to the JPS 2020 Valedictorians and Salutatorians and all Graduating Seniors!

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Alondra Lewis
Valedictorian



Audria Jackson
Salutatorian

FOREST HILL HIGH SCHOOL



Victoria Harrison
Valedictorian



Courtnei Sutton
Salutatorian

JIM HILL HIGH SCHOOL



Jamarial Eby
Valedictorian



Jada Kelly
Salutatorian

LANIER HIGH SCHOOL



Zulea Crisler
Valedictorian



Jada Fleming
Salutatorian

MURRAH HIGH SCHOOL



Jeffrey Collins
Valedictorian



Jesse James III
Salutatorian

PROVINE HIGH SCHOOL



Alexandria Galloway
Valedictorian



Brandia Wigley
Salutatorian

WINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

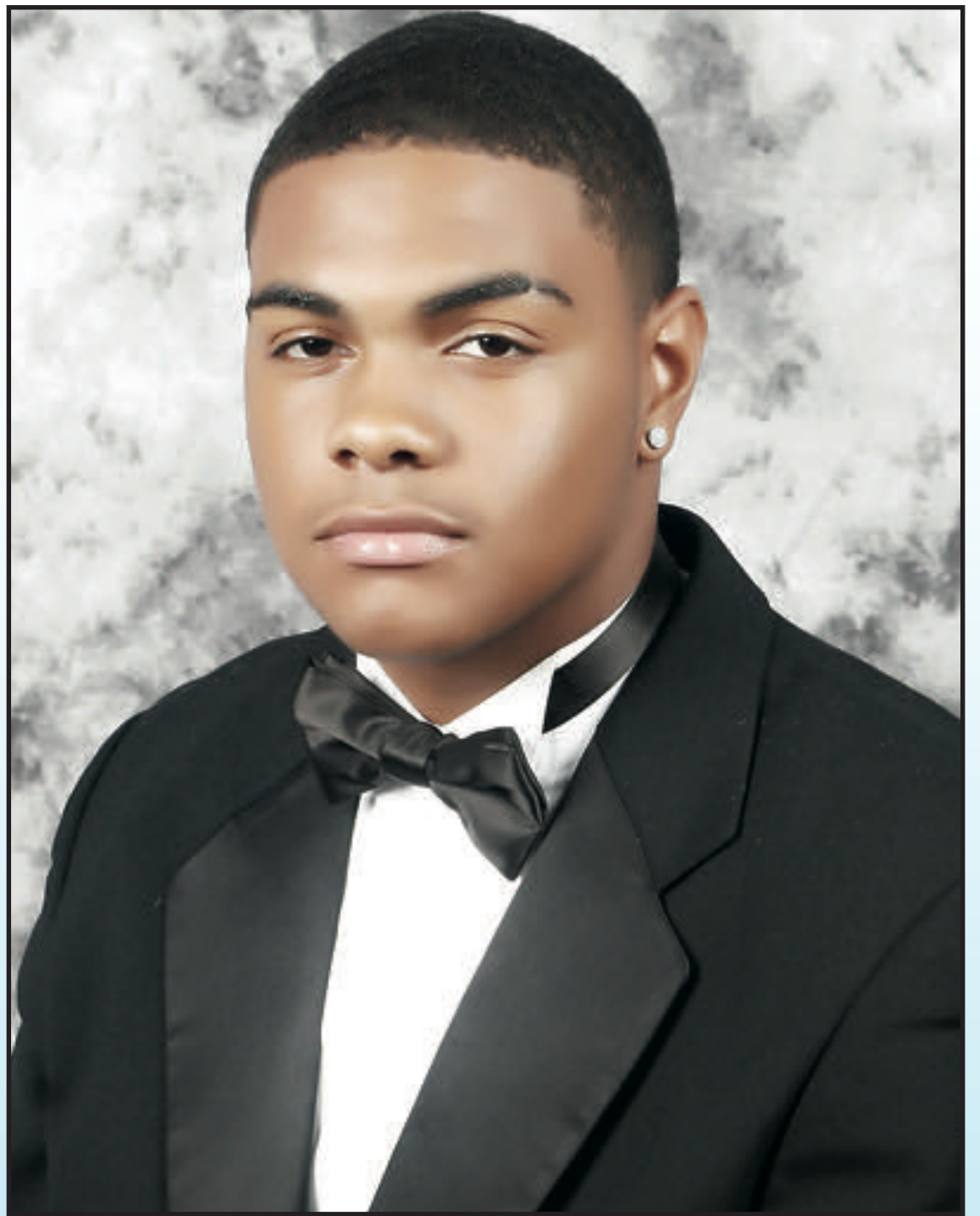


Crystal Smith
Valedictorian



Chere' Boney-Tart
Salutatorian

Congrats
**JERRY “BUDDY”
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— FROM GRAND DADDY AND GRAND MOMMA MITCHELL

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B.S., CHEMISTRY/PRE-MED

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— FROM YOUR GRANDMOTHER LENORA REED

Congrats

**KAITLIN
MYRICKS**

**GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATE**



WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

— MOM, DAD AND YOUR FAMILY

Kaitlin Myricks the Epsilon Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity essay contest winner

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Kaitlin Myricks, a graduating senior of Germantown High School in Canton, MS was named the winner of the Epsilon Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. essay scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

The Epsilon Kappa Kappa (EKK) Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated has long been a proponent of academic excellence as evidenced by its generous financial donation to college bound students.

Kaitlin's essay scored the highest out of approximately 50 entries from high school seniors within Madison County. The contest is open to all college-bound, high school seniors who submit an essay application through a chapter of the fraternity.

The "High School Essay Contest," is to be held each year in conjunction with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.'s International Achievement Week. Interested high school students

must submit an essay between 700 and 750 words in length.

The theme for this year was "The U.S. Census projects that the United States will become a majority-minority country by the year 2045. How can we combat, prevent and/or reduce prejudice, discrimination and violence in a new, more diverse America?" The contest closed October 18, 2019.

In addition to winning our local Chapter award, the brothers of EKK would also like to extend congratulations to Kaitlin for her essay also being declared the winning submission on the Mississippi State level (\$1,000) as well as the District level (\$2,500) of our beloved fraternity which encompasses Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

After being declared the 7th District winner, Kaitlin's essay was then forwarded to our international headquarters to compete in the fraternity's "International High School Essay Contest" against submissions

from winners around the globe. The top essays compete for the following prizes: 1st place – \$5,000, 2nd place – \$3,000, 3rd place – \$2,000 and 4th place – \$1,000.

International Essay awards were announced and made public May 14, 2020. It is the distinct pleasure of the Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter to announce that Kaitlin placed 2nd in the international phase of the competition which awards her another \$3,000 in scholarship monies.

In past years, members of our chapter would have recognized Kaitlin during class day/night and taken a picture with her while presenting her monetary awards. However, the current COVID-19 pandemic has stopped our typical process, but it cannot stop this congratulatory recognition.

Again, best of luck and congratulations on your achievements and future endeavors. We look forward to your continued success in the future.

Congrats
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BRIDGEMAN**
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– FROM YOUR MOM, SHERIDA

Congrats
**MILALAI
WALDEN**

**MURRAH HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATE**



CONGRATULATIONS AND ALL THE BEST FOR THE FUTURE!

– FROM THE WALDEN FAMILY, BEAMAN FAMILY & DAY FAMILY

Congratulations on Your Achievement



Issac Randle,
Valedictorian

Attending University of Mississippi; awarded the Certificate of Excellence on behalf of Beta Rho and Beta Theta Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Alexandria Hilliard,
Co-Salutatorian

Awarded the Certificate of Excellence on behalf of the Beta Rho and Beta Theta Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; attending Holmes Community College and University of Mississippi



Jatoni Donelson,
Co-Salutatorian

Attending Mississippi State University as a pre-med major

Holmes County Central High School
Class of 2020



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and the
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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE


HCSD Partners with MSDH, UMMC and the Mississippi National Guard to Provide COVID-19 Testing at BMS




Hinds County School District Honors 2019-2020 Retirees




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Gloria Collins / RHS




Jennie Coleman / RHS




Melanie Fuller / GRI




Henry Blunt / BMS



Peggy Guyton / BMS








Irene Hughes / UEMS



Annette Moncure / RHS

Hinds County School District Honors Its Frontline Heroes



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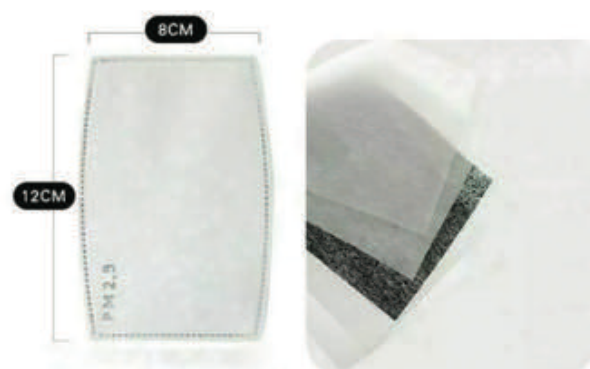
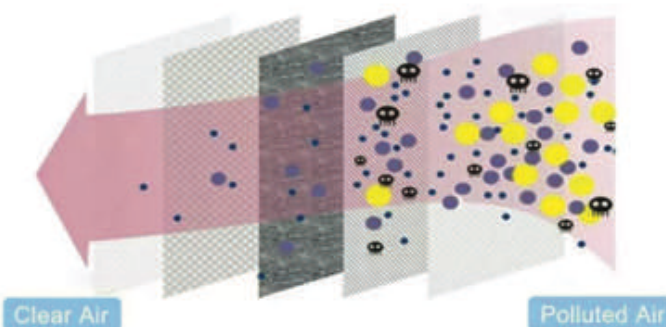
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